

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /101 W
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R 260848 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6985

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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E. O. 11654/ N/ A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: DRP DEVELOPMENTS

SUMMARY: ON MARCH 24, DRP DECIDED TO REDUCE ITS PERMANENT STAFF. REDUCTION APPEARS TO SIGNAL A REDUCED ROLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT PARTY. ON SAME DAY PRESIDENT INSTRUCTED DRP LEADERS TO ENLIGHTEN CITIZENS ABOUT GOVERNMENT POLICY.

1. LATEST OF SEVERAL INDICATIOS THAT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY (DRP) IS TO HAVE A REDUCED ROLE IN THE NEW ORDER OF THINGS IS DECISION MARCH 24 TO REDUCE PAID PERMANENT STAFF FROM 100 TO 70, TO ELIMINATE TWO BUREAUS (WOMEN' S AND PUBLIC OPINION), TO ELIMINATE ONE OF TWO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL POSITIONS, AND TO KEEP BUT NOT STAFF FINANCE COMMITTEE WHOSE CHAIRMAN IN PAST HAS BEEN PARTY BAG MAN. IT HAS BEEN CUSTOMARY FOLLOWING ELECTIONS FOR THE DRP TO REDUCE ITS STAFF, BUT THESE ARE THE DEEPEST CUTS IT HAS FACED SINCE IT WAS ORGANIZED.

2. PRESIDENT PARK FORMALLY APPOINTED NEW DRP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS SAME DAY. SPEAKING AT BLUE HOUSE CREMONY, HE ASKED THEM TO EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC THE NECESSITY OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES WHICH HAVE LONG- RANGE BENEFITS BUT GIVE
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TEMPORARY INCONVENIENCE. PRESIDENT SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO LAWS ENACTED BY EXTRAORDINARY STATE COUNCIL WHICH RESTRICTED ACCESS TO MOUNTAIN TRAILS IN A COUNTRY WHERE SUNDAY HIKING IS A NATIONAL PASSION, BANNED COLLECTION OF FIREWOOD BY INDIVIDUALS, IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON FAMILY CEREMONIES, AND PROHIBITED SUCH MODISH STYLES AS LONG HAIR FOR MEN AND MINI- SKIRTS. DECON 1-1-75.
HABIB

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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